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REMARKS

The undersigned acknowledges the courteous treatment received during the course of an interview held on this date with the Examiner in charge of this application and a supervisor.

The undersigned pointed out how the claims as amended distinguished over the art of record, and Kou in particular.

The present amendment corrects typographical errors in the specification pointed out by the Examiner.

The supervisor recommended some language changes in claim 1 to clarify the distinctions over the art of record, and this has been done. In addition, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of the monitor recited in claim 10 which has been canceled because the use of the monitor as a means of measuring voltage drop appears to be significant in the light of the art of record.

It was pointed out by the undersigned that the relays are used to provide failsafe protection for the communication ports, a feature not found in the art of record.

The Examiners indicated that further searching will be required.

It is understood that the Examiner's summary of the interview will appear in the next Official Action.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned or Mr. Kroll if further changes are required to obtain allowance of the application.

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A favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: July 21, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF FAXING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U. S.

Patent and Trademark Office, telephone number 703-872-9306 on July 21, 2004.

Leonard Belkin